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 second location from any of the plurality of the first locations on the global communication network;

causing the unique audio signature to be reproduced at one or more of the plurality of first locations; and

5 transferring information between the one or more of the first locations and the specific and determinable second location in response to the step of causing and in accordance with the routing information stored in the database and associated with the reproduced unique audio signature.

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action dated June 13, 2002. Applicants have amended Claims 22 and 29 to more clearly point out the present inventive concept. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Regarding Claims 22, 24, 25, 29, 31 and 32 rejected under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,018,764, Field et al. (hereinafter *Field*) and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,581,484, Bendig (hereinafter *Bendig*), this rejection is respectfully traversed as follows.

The Applicants' invention is directed to a method for allowing any of a plurality of first locations on a global communication network to access a specific and determinable second location on the global communication network, comprising the steps of: defining a unique audio signature . . . permanently associated with the specific and determinable second location; storing a unique audio designation corresponding to the unique audio signature in a database; and associating with the unique audio designation in the database routing information . . . to the specific and determinable second location.

The Examiner is correct in that *Field* does not explicitly teach either a database or the defining of a unique audio signature. In fact, *Field* does not have the structure necessary to practice Applicants'

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

S/N 09/494,956

Atty. Dkt. No. PHL-24,815

method. *Field* does not have a database. *Field* does not have a global communication network having a plurality of first locations and a specific and determinable second location coupled thereto. For example, as noted by the Examiner, *Field* does not disclose a database, but neither does *Field* disclose any kind of storage media that associates routing information to the specific and determinable second location with a unique audio designation stored therein. Further, *Field's* so called network is actually a one-way broadcast channel for receiving a television broadcast at a receiver and storing program material in a memory within the user's television receiver, configured so that "the user's perception is that of a bidirectional network that allows Internet type browsing." Col. 8, lines 40-44. Thus, this one-way broadcast channel is not a bidirectional network and *Field* is, in fact, completely incapable of performing Applicants' method as recited in independent Claims 22 and 29.

The *Field* reference is also a reference that does not provide in a table or a database any association between an "audio signature" and a unique location on the network. Rather, the mapping provided is that associated with a mapping table. This mapping table is set forth as Table 1 in Column 6 and it shows that there is a URL in the table that has associated therewith a broadcast address. This table is provided to user via the broadcast. Once disposed at the user's location, the user can then select a location in the broadcast for connection thereto by selecting this URL. This URL is not the unique audio designator but, rather, a conventional text URL. Further, there is no disclosure in *Field* that would suggest that an audio signature could be associated with the URL in a database, this URL providing the unique location on the broadcast of the selected location on the network. As such, this is a significant deficiency in field.

These deficiencies are not cured by *Bendig*. *Bendig* is directed to a videotex system, which links a plurality of subscriber terminals to a host computer via a telephone line with modem interfaces to enable subscriber requests for and downloading of textual information. *Bendig* enhances this videotex system by adding audio and interactive audio modes to the text mode of the videotex system. The database is "structured to carry relatively large amounts of information related to any of a variety of services such as encyclopedic, library, banking, shopping and the like." Col. 6, lines 54-67. However,

Bendig does not disclose any “associating with the unique audio designation in the database routing information over the global communication network to the specific and determinable second location.” Merely citing *Bendig* for having “a database” is insufficient to suggest the particular associative database as recited in Applicants’ Claim 22 or Claim 29, especially when the memory device is coupled to *Bendig*’s host computer 82 or audio program playback devices (“audio memory 92”) or an “audio index memory 88” for locating the recording audio data in the “audio memory 92” so it can be transmitted to the user terminal, or a “text memory 84.” See Fig. 2, Col. 10, lines 1-53. None of these memories provide or even suggest the kind of database recited in Applicants’ Claim 22 or 29.

The foregoing reasons demonstrate that the combination of *Field* and *Bendig* fails to anticipate or render obvious the inventions recited in Applicants’ independent Claims 22 or 29 as amended. In fact, since the *Field* and *Bendig* references are not members of the same art and nothing in either reference suggests combining it with the other reference, Applicants’ respectfully submit that the combination does not render Applicants’ independent Claims 22 and 29 unpatentable. Applicants’ therefore respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection and the allowance of Claims 22 and 29 as amended.

Regarding Claims 24, 25, 31 and 32 which respectively depend directly or ultimately from base Claims 22 or 29 and thus contain all of the limitations recited in the respective base claim, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 24, 25, 31 and 32 are patentable over the cited art of record and respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection.

Regarding Claims 23, 26-28, 30 and 33-35, rejected under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Field* and *Bendig* as applied to Claim 22 and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,913,210, *Call* (hereinafter *Call*), this rejection is respectfully traversed as follows.

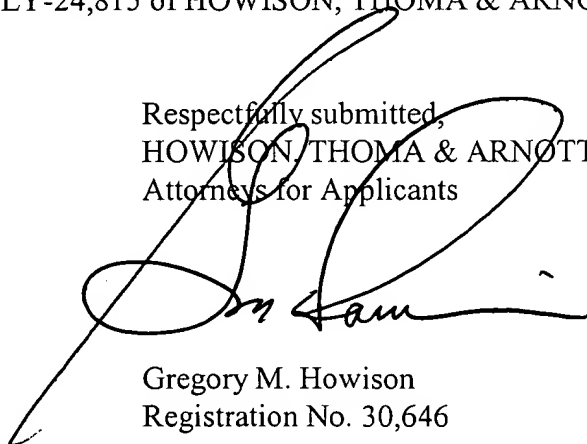
Regarding Claim 23, regardless of whether *Call* “teaches a relational database disposed at an intermediate node” Claim 23 is a dependent claim depending from base Claim 22 which, as has been

previously shown, to be patentable over the cited art. Therefore, Claim 23 which contains the limitations of base Claim 22 is likewise patentable over the cited art of record. Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection and the allowance of Claim 23. Claims 27 and 28, which recite further limitations upon the method of Claim 26 and ultimately depend upon the base Claim 22 previously shown to be patentable over the cited art of record are likewise patentable over the combination of *Field*, *Bendig* and *Call*. Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection with respect to Claims 27 and 28.

Regarding Claims 26, 30, 33, 34 and 35, which depend ultimately or directly upon their respective base Claims 22 or 29 and the intervening Claims 23 or 27 and 28 previously shown hereinabove to be patentable over the combination of *Field*, *Bendig* and *Call* are therefore patentable over the cited art of record and the Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection with respect to those claims.

Applicants have now made an earnest attempt in order to place this case in condition for allowance. For the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of the claims as amended. Please charge any additional fees or deficiencies in fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0780/PHLY-24,815 of HOWISON, THOMA & ARNOTT, L.L.P.

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE



22. (Amended) A method for allowing any of a plurality of first locations on a global communication network to access a specific and determinable second location on the global communication network, comprising the steps of:

5 defining a unique audio signature for the specific and determinable second location on the global communication network, which unique audio signature is permanently associated with the specific and determinable second location;

storing a unique audio designation corresponding to the unique audio signature in a database; and

10 associating with the unique audio designation in the database routing information over the global communication network to the specific and determinable second location from any of the plurality of the first locations on the global communication network.

29. (Amended) A method for conducting commerce between any of a plurality of first locations on a global communication network and a specific and determinable second location on the global communication network for allowing information to be transferred therebetween, comprising the steps of:

5 defining a unique audio signature for the specific and determinable second location on the global communication network, which unique audio signature is permanently associated with the specific and determinable second location;

storing a unique audio designation corresponding to the unique audio signature in a database;

10 associating with the unique audio designation in the database routing information over the global communication network to the specific and determinable second location from any of the plurality of the first locations on the global communication network;

causing the unique audio signature to be reproduced at one or more of

the plurality of first locations; and

transferring information between the one or more of the first locations and the specific and determinable second location in response to the step of causing and in accordance with the routing information stored in the database and associated with the reproduced unique audio signature.